

The decision by Sinclair Broadcasting to require their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary just before the election is a glaring example of the dangers of media consolidation and the domination of public airwaves by and for private interests.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public's interest. When huge companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for monied interests and less of what we need for an informed citizenry. Instead of something produced for ratings and "infotainment," we need to see more of real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.